



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-2000



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Congratulations on your selection to Chief Petty Officer, now it's time to get after it. All that you've experienced to date has served to prepare you for one of the most demanding, yet rewarding opportunities in the United States Navy. Soon, you will be the Chief responsible to your Sailors for providing mentorship, guidance and support. Thus ensuring they are provided the same opportunities that were afforded to you.

Being a Chief Petty Officer is not for the weak of heart, nor lazy of mind and body. It will require your very best every single day, especially when it is hard. Remember, honesty and integrity are a few of the things that you may only get one shot at. Once you give away your integrity, it can be very difficult if not impossible to regain. You must lead by example. That is the only way that the Chiefs Mess will continue to maintain credibility.

For over 238 years the United States Navy has operated in an uncertain environment and we always will. For this reason, Chief Petty Officers cannot and do not look for excuses. Chief Petty Officers embrace challenge and seek solutions together. The hard truth is; if we don't have challenges, we don't need Chiefs. Hard is what we do, it is in our DNA.

Throughout your career and most recently through CPO 365 you have been challenged, tested, tried, and soon you will become part of the Chief Petty Officer's Mess. You should accept your new position with a great deal of humility. You did not accomplish this milestone on your own. Your families and friends who support you unconditionally, the leaders whom guide and mentor you daily, your peers who have demanded that you put your best foot forward on and off duty, and the Sailors that do our Navy's heavy lifting, all had a direct impact on your selection.

Be mindful - being a Chief Petty Officer is far more about what you do than what you say. It is about being a humble and servant leader. Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking much more about others.

WELCOME TO THE MESS!!!

Very Respectfully,

Mike Stevens
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